

ABSOLUTE RATING: Average

IMPROVEMENT RATING: Average

Number of districts with students like ours: 18.

The absolute ratings for those districts ranged from below average to good. For improvement ratings, the range was from below average to good.

Definitions of District Rating Terms

Excellent- District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

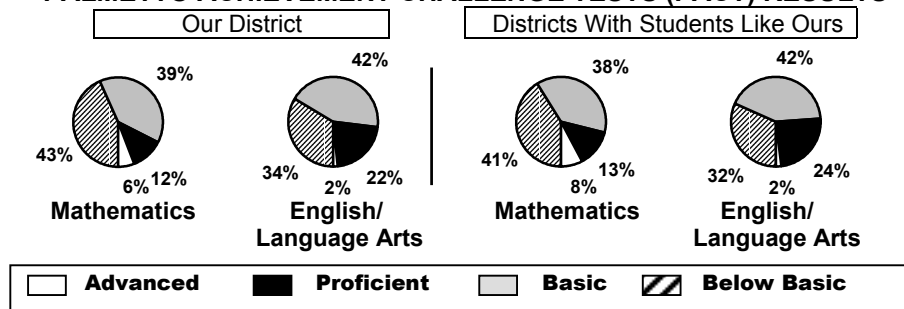
Good- District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Average- District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Below Average- District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

Unsatisfactory- District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS

Student Group	Percent of Seniors Passing the Exit Exam	Percent of Seniors Qualifying for LIFE Scholarships	Percent of Students Scoring Basic or Above on the PACT	
			ELA	Math
All Students	91.3%	16.4%	66.3%	56.6%
Students with disabilities other than Speech	72.7%	0.0%	40.7%	23.6%
Students without disabilities	92.9%	17.2%	70.8%	61.6%
Gender				
Male	89.3%	11.9%	60.9%	55.7%
Female	92.9%	20.7%	73.1%	58.2%
Ethnic Group				
African-American	89.8%	2.3%	53.2%	41.9%
Hispanic	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
White	91.9%	24.8%	77.1%	67.6%
Other	100.0%	0.0%	N/A	N/A
Lunch Status				
Free/ Reduced-Price Lunch	86.6%	1.1%	58.4%	46.7%
Pay for Lunch	93.3%	26.1%	79.6%	71.3%

TENTH GRADE PASSAGE OF ONE OR MORE SUBTESTS OF THE EXIT EXAM

	First-time Examinees		
	1999	2000	2001
Our district			
Passed all 3 subtests	62.8%	65.2%	72.1%
Passed 2 subtests	22.8%	19.7%	16.1%
Passed 1 subtest	8.8%	8.7%	7.4%
Passed no subtest	5.6%	6.4%	4.3%
Districts with students like ours			
Passed all 3 subtests	58.8%	62.2%	64.8%
Passed 2 subtests	19.9%	19.5%	18.2%
Passed 1 subtest	13.0%	11.3%	10.2%
Passed no subtest	8.3%	7.0%	6.9%

LIFE scholarships at four-year institutions

	Eligible	Percent of Seniors Meeting Grade Point Average Requirement	Meeting SAT/ACT Requirement
Our District	16.4%	55.6%	16.9%
Districts Like Ours	17.8%	46.7%	19.0%

College Admissions Tests: Tests that are frequently used in the college admissions process.

	SAT Verbal		SAT Math		SAT Total		ACT English		ACT Math		ACT Reading		ACT Science		ACT Total	
	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001	2000	2001
District	454	437	435	448	889	885	18.3	18.5	18.5	18.7	18.8	18.0	18.7	18.5	18.7	18.5
State	484	486	482	488	966	974	18.7	18.8	19.2	19.3	19.5	19.5	19.2	19.2	19.3	19.3
Nation	505	506	514	514	1019	1020	20.5	20.5	20.7	20.7	21.4	21.3	21.0	21.0	21.0	21.0

These tests were administered to samples of students:

Terra Nova Test: A national, norm-referenced achievement test.

Percent scoring in upper half

	Reading		Language		Math		Total	
	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Grade 4	47.8	50.0	43.1	50.0	58.4	50.0	50.5	50.0
Grade 7	45.8	50.0	59.4	50.0	54.7	50.0	53.9	50.0
Grade 10	59.6	50.0	59.5	50.0	62.4	50.0	59.1	50.0

National Assessment of Education Progress : A national, criterion-referenced achievement test.

Percents of Students

Test	Grade	Year	Advanced		Proficient		Basic		Below Basic	
			State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation	State	Nation
Reading	4	1998	4	6	18	23	33	32	45	39
Writing	8	1998	0	1	15	23	64	59	21	17
Mathematics	4	2000	2	3	16	23	42	43	40	31

DISTRICT PROFILE

INDICATORS OF DISTRICT PERFORMANCE

	This District	Change from Last Year	Districts With Students Like Ours	Median District
DISTRICT				
• Dollars per student	\$6,849	N/A	\$6,405	\$6,464
• Prime instructional time	89.5%	No change	89.4%	89.4%
• Student-teacher ratio	18.8 to 1	N/A	19.4 to 1	20.2 to 1
• Vacancies for more than nine weeks	0.3%	N/A	1%	0.6%
STUDENTS (n=5,010)				
• Advanced placement/ int'l baccalaureate program exam success ratio	18.2%	N/A	44.3%	43.8%
• Attendance Rate	95.5%	Down from 96.2%	95.5%	95.7%
• Taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	8.3%	N/A	6.1%	5.8%
• Taking PACT (Math) off grade level	6.7%	N/A	5.1%	4.5%
• Retention rate	7%	Up from 5.2%	6.2%	6.0%
TEACHERS (n=389)				
• Professional development days per teacher	7.2 Days	Down from 8.7	7.2 Days	7.8 Days
• Attendance rate	94.9%	Down from 95.2%	95.2%	95.2%
• Advanced Degrees	54.5%	Down from 57.2%	44.1%	44.4%
• Continuing contracts	87.1%	Down from 89.2%	81.3%	81.4%
• Out-of-field permits	2.3%	Up from 1.9%	2.3%	2.2%
• Teachers returning from the previous year	93.5%	Up from 92.5%	89.2%	89.5%
• Average salary	\$38,352	Up 3.5%	\$36,363	\$37,143

DISTRICT FACTS

DISTRICT				
• Annual dropout rate	3.4%	Down from 3.5%	3.3%	2.9%
• Percentage spent on teacher salaries	44.6%	N/A	50.8%	50.9%
• Superintendent's years in the district	4	N/A	2	3.5
• Parent conferences	89.7%	N/A	80%	81.0%
• Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	N/A	Excellent	Excellent
• Number of schools	9	No change	10	8
• Number of alternative schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of charter schools	0	No change	0	0
• Number of magnet schools	0	N/A	0	0
• Portable classrooms	12%	N/A	11.3%	6.5%
• Attendance rate of district office staff	N/A	N/A	96.7%	97.5%
• Average administrative salary	\$58,166	Up 4.6%	\$61,917	\$64,098
STUDENTS				
• Enrollment in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Percent of completions in adult education GED or diploma programs	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Suspensions and expulsions	69	N/A	85	100
• Percent eligible for state gifted and talented programs	10.5%	Down from 12%	9.9%	10.5%
• Percentage with disabilities other than speech	12%	Up from 9.8%	10.8%	10.5%

Union School District
PO Box 907
Union, SC 29379



Grades K-12

Enrollment: 5,010 Students

Superintendent Dr. Dan W. Powell 864-429-1740

Board Chair Dr. Wanda All 864-429-0746

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual District Report Card	2001
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DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Union County Schools, in partnership with the community will ensure that all students are provided challenging educational opportunities in a safe, supportive environment to enable them to reach their maximum potential. Our district consists of nine schools which serves 5,192 students in kindergarten through twelfth grade. In addition, we offer an alternative school, Union County Achievement Academy, a strong Adult Education Program, and a Parent Community Center. Our district is committed to excellence. We have been involved in many initiatives to strive for success. They include:

- * Working closely with the Union County First Steps Initiative to ensure all students enter first grade ready to succeed;
- * Reducing class size in first and second grade;
- * Providing after-school academic assistance;
- * Housing after-school programs and summer programs sponsored by the YMCA and the Boys' and Girls' Club for enrichment;
- * Providing a Potential Administrators' Academy;
- * Providing computer access to all classrooms with Internet connection;
- * Working closely with the University of South Carolina to allow students to receive both high school and college credit;
- * Providing opportunities for all students to receive occupational training with our Career Center;
- * Providing staff development, training and courses for staff members;
- * Recognizing artistic, athletic, and academic excellence.

We are fortunate to have a business community, industry, school board, parents, and administrators that are supportive of our educational system. We strive to provide a challenging enriching curriculum for all students that incorporates critical thinking skills, communication skills, and active learning that prepares students for tomorrow's workplace. The Union County School District maintains high expectations, and a safe, disciplined environment that provides effective programs to meet the needs of all students.

South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at

www.myschools.com